Driving the vehicle

The following procedures should be observed to ensure safe driving.

■ Starting the engine (→P. 124)

■ Driving

STEP 1 With the brake pedal depressed, shift the shift lever to D. (→P. 128)

STEP 2 Release the parking brake. (→P. 137)

STEP 3 Gradually release the brake pedal and gently depress the accelerator pedal to accelerate the vehicle.

■ Stopping

STEP 1 With the shift lever in D, depress the brake pedal.

STEP 2 If necessary, set the parking brake.

When the vehicle is stopped for an extended period of time, shift the shift lever to P or N. (→P.128)

■ Parking the vehicle

STEP 1 With the shift lever in D, depress the brake pedal.

STEP 2 Set the parking brake. (→P.137)

STEP 3 Shift the shift lever to P. (→P.128)

STEP 4 Press the “ENGINE START STOP” switch to stop the engine.

STEP 5 Lock the door, making sure that you have the electronic key on your person.

Starting on a steep uphill

STEP 1 Firmly set the parking brake and shift the shift lever to D.

STEP 2 Gently depress the accelerator pedal.

STEP 3 Release the parking brake.

n **Starting off on a hill**

Hill-start assist control will operate. (→P. 177)

n **Driving in the rain**

l Drive carefully when it is raining, because visibility will be reduced, the windows may become fogged-up, and the road will be slippery.

l Drive carefully when it starts to rain, because the road surface will be especially slippery.

l Refrain from high speeds when driving on an expressway in the rain, because there may be a layer of water between the tires and the road surface, preventing the steering and brakes from operating properly.

n **Breaking in your new Lexus**

To extend the life of the vehicle, the following precautions are recommended to observe:

l For the first 186 miles (300 km):
Avoid sudden stops.

l For the first 621 miles (1000 km):

- Do not drive at extremely high speeds.
- Avoid sudden acceleration.
- Do not drive continuously in the low gears.
- Do not drive at a constant speed for extended periods.

n **Drum-in-disc type parking brake system**

Your vehicle has a drum-in-disc type parking brake system. This type of brake system needs bedding-down of the brake shoes periodically or whenever the parking brake shoes and/or drum are replaced. Have your Lexus dealer perform the bedding down.

n **Operating your vehicle in a foreign country**

Comply with the relevant vehicle registration laws and confirm the availability of the correct fuel. (→P. 492)

CAUTION

When starting off

To prevent the vehicle from creeping forward, keep the brake pedal firmly depressed when shifting the shift lever.

When driving the vehicle

- Do not drive if you are unfamiliar with the location of the brake and accelerator pedals to avoid depressing the wrong pedal.
  - Accidentally depressing the accelerator pedal instead of the brake pedal will result in sudden acceleration that may lead to an accident that could result in death or serious injury.
  - When backing up, you may twist your body around, leading to a difficulty in operating the pedals. Make sure to operate the pedals properly.
  - Make sure to keep a correct driving posture even when moving the vehicle only slightly, allowing you to depress the brake and accelerator pedals properly.
  - Depress the brake pedal using your right foot. Depressing the brake pedal using your left foot may delay response in an emergency, resulting in an accident.
- Do not drive the vehicle over or stop the vehicle near flammable materials.
- Do not let the vehicle roll backwards while the shift lever is in a driving position, or roll forward while the shift lever is in R.
  Doing so may cause the engine to stall or lead to poor brake and steering performance, resulting in an accident or damage to the vehicle.
- If the smell of exhaust is noticed inside the vehicle, open the windows and check that the trunk is closed. Large amounts of exhaust in the vehicle can cause driver drowsiness and an accident, resulting in death or a serious health hazard. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.
- Do not under any circumstances shift the shift lever to P, R or N while the vehicle is moving.
  Doing so can cause significant damage to the transmission system and may result in a loss of vehicle control.
- Do not shift the shift lever to N while the vehicle is moving.
  Doing so may cause the engine brake to not operate properly and lead to an accident.

CAUTION

- Do not turn the engine off while driving.
  The power steering and brake booster systems will not operate properly if the engine is not running.
- Use engine braking (downshift) to maintain a safe speed when driving down a steep hill.
  Using the brakes continuously may cause the brakes to overheat and lose effectiveness. (→P. 130, 132)
- When stopped on an inclined surface, use the brake pedal and parking brake to prevent the vehicle from rolling backward or forward and causing an accident.
- Do not adjust the position of the steering wheel, the seat, or the inside or outside rear view mirrors while driving.
  Doing so may result in a loss of vehicle control that can cause accidents that may result in death or serious injury.
- Always check that all passengers' arms, heads or other parts of their bodies are not outside the vehicle, as this may result in death or serious injury.
- Do not drive in excess of the speed limit. Even if the legal speed limit permits it, do not drive over 85 mph (140 km/h) unless your vehicle has high-speed capability tires. Driving over 85 mph (140 km/h) may result in tire failure, loss of control and possible injury. Be sure to consult a tire dealer to determine whether the tires on your vehicle are high-speed capability tires or not before driving at such speeds.

When driving on slippery road surfaces

- Sudden braking, acceleration and steering may cause tire slippage and reduce your ability to control the vehicle, resulting in an accident.
- Sudden changes in engine speed, such as engine braking caused by up-shifting or down-shifting, may cause the vehicle to skid, resulting in an accident.
- After driving through a puddle, lightly depress the brake pedal to make sure that the brakes are functioning properly. Wet brake pads may prevent the brakes from functioning properly. If the brakes on only one side are wet and not functioning properly, steering control may be affected, resulting in an accident.

When shifting the shift lever

Be careful not to shift the shift lever with the accelerator pedal depressed.
This may lead to unexpected rapid acceleration of the vehicle that may cause an accident and result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION

n When the vehicle is stopped

- Do not race the engine.
  If the vehicle is in any gear other than P or N, the vehicle may accelerate suddenly and unexpectedly, and may cause an accident.
- Do not leave the vehicle with the engine running for a long time.
  If such a situation cannot be avoided, park the vehicle in an open space and check that exhaust fumes do not enter the vehicle interior.
- Always keep a foot on the brake pedal while the engine is running to prevent an accident caused by the vehicle moving.
- To prevent the vehicle from moving and causing an accident, apply the brake pedal or parking brake when stopping the vehicle on a hill.

n When the vehicle is parked

- Do not leave glasses, cigarette lighters, spray cans, or soft drink cans in the vehicle when it is in the sun.
  Doing so may result in the following.
  - Gas may leak from a cigarette lighter or spray can, and may lead to a fire.
  - The temperature inside the vehicle may cause the plastic lenses and plastic material of eye glasses to deform or crack.
  - Soft drink cans may fracture, causing the contents to spray over the interior of the vehicle, and may also cause a short circuit in the vehicle's electrical components.
- Always apply the parking brake, shift the shift lever to P, stop the engine and lock the vehicle.
  Do not leave the vehicle unattended while the engine is running.
- Do not touch the exhaust pipes or rear bumper exhaust diffusers while the engine is running or immediately after turning the engine off.
  Doing so may cause burns.
- Do not leave the engine running in an area with snow build-up, or where it is snowing. If snowbanks build up around the vehicle while the engine is running, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle. This may lead to death or a serious health hazard.

CAUTION

- **Exhaust gases**

  Exhaust gases include harmful carbon monoxide (CO) that is colorless and odorless. Inhaling exhaust gases may lead to death or a serious health hazard.

  - If the vehicle is in a poorly ventilated area, stop the engine. In a closed area, such as a garage, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle. This may lead to death or a serious health hazard.
  - The exhaust should be checked occasionally. If there is a hole or crack caused by corrosion, damage to a joint or abnormal exhaust noise, be sure to have the vehicle inspected and repaired by your Lexus dealer. Failure to do so may allow exhaust gases to enter the vehicle, resulting in death or a serious health hazard.

- **When taking a nap in the vehicle**

  Always turn the engine off. Otherwise, you may accidentally move the shift lever or depress the accelerator pedal, which could cause an accident or fire due to engine overheating. Additionally, if the vehicle is parked in a poorly ventilated area, exhaust gases may collect and enter the vehicle, leading to death or a serious health hazard.

- **When braking the vehicle**

  - When the brakes are wet, drive more cautiously.
    Braking distance increases when the brakes are wet, and may cause one side of the vehicle to brake differently than the other side. Also the parking brake may not securely hold the vehicle.
  - If the power brake assist function does not operate, do not follow other vehicles closely and avoid downhills or sharp turns that require braking.
    In this case, braking is still possible, but it will require more force on the pedal than usual. Braking distance may also increase.
  - Do not pump the brake pedal if the engine stalls.
    Each push on the brake pedal uses up the reserve for the power-assisted brakes.
  - The brake system consists of 2 individual hydraulic systems: if one of the systems fails, the other will still operate. In this case, the brake pedal should be depressed more firmly than usual and braking distance becomes longer.
    Do not drive your vehicle with only a single brake system. Have your brakes fixed immediately.

NOTICE

When driving the vehicle

Do not use the accelerator pedal or depress the accelerator and brake pedals together to hold the vehicle on a hill.

When parking the vehicle

Always put the shift lever in P. Failure to do so may cause the vehicle to move or the vehicle may accelerate suddenly if the accelerator pedal is accidentally depressed.

Avoiding damage to vehicle parts

- Do not turn the steering wheel fully in either direction and hold it there for a long time.
  Doing so may damage the power steering motor.
- When driving over bumps in the road, drive as slowly as possible to avoid damaging the wheels, underside of the vehicle, etc.

If you hear a squealing or scraping noise (brake pad wear limit indicators)

Have your Lexus dealer check and replace the brake pads as soon as possible. Rotor damage can result if the pads are not replaced when needed.

Moderate levels of brake pad and disc wear allow enhanced front braking power. As a result, the discs may wear more quickly than conventional brake discs. Therefore, when replacing the brake pads, Lexus recommends that you also have the thickness of the discs measured.
It is dangerous to drive the vehicle when the wear limits of the brake pads and/or those of the brake discs are exceeded.

If you get a flat tire while driving

A flat or damaged tire may cause the following situations. Hold the steering wheel firmly and gradually press the brake pedal to slow down the vehicle.

- It may be difficult to control your vehicle.
- The vehicle will make abnormal sounds.
- The vehicle will behave abnormally.

Replace a flat tire with a new one. (→P. 467)

NOTICE

When encountering flooded roads

Do not drive on a road that has flooded after heavy rain etc. Doing so may cause the following serious damage to the vehicle.

- Engine stalling
- Short in electrical components
- Engine damage caused by water immersion

In the event that you drive on a flooded road and the vehicle is flooded, be sure to have your Lexus dealer check the following.

- Brake function
- Changes in quantity and quality of oil and fluid used for the engine, transmission, differential, etc.
- Lubricant condition for the propeller shaft, bearings and suspension joints (where possible) and the function of all joints, bearings, etc.

Engine (ignition) switch

Performing the following operations when carrying the electronic key on your person starts the engine or changes “ENGINE START STOP” switch modes.

Starting the engine

STEP 1 Check that the parking brake is set.

STEP 2 Check that the shift lever is set in P.

STEP 3 Sit in the driver’s seat and firmly depress the brake pedal.

The “ENGINE START STOP” switch indicator turns green.

STEP 4

Press the “ENGINE START STOP” switch.

The engine can be started from any mode.

Changing “ENGINE START STOP” switch mode

Modes can be changed by pressing the “ENGINE START STOP” switch with the brake pedal released. (The mode changes each time the switch is pressed.)

1 OFF*

The emergency flashers can be used.

2 ACCESSORY mode

Some electrical components such as the audio system can be used.

The “ENGINE START STOP” switch indicator turns amber.

3 IGNITION ON mode

All electrical components can be used.

The “ENGINE START STOP” switch indicator turns amber.

*: If the shift lever is in a position other than P when turning off the engine, the “ENGINE START STOP” switch will be turned to ACCESSORY mode, not to OFF.

If the engine does not start

The engine immobilizer system may not have been deactivated. (→P. 78)

When the steering lock cannot be released

The “ENGINE START STOP” switch indicator will flash in green and a message will be shown on the multi-information display. Press the “ENGINE START STOP” switch again while turning the steering wheel left and right.

When the “ENGINE START STOP” switch indicator flashes in amber

The system may be malfunctioning. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.

Auto power off function

If the vehicle is left in ACCESSORY mode for more than an hour with the shift lever in P, the “ENGINE START STOP” switch will automatically turn OFF.

Electronic key battery depletion

→P. 32

When the electronic key battery is discharged

→P. 406

Conditions affecting operation

→P. 30

Note for the entry function

→P. 33

CAUTION

When starting the engine

Always start the engine while sitting in the driver's seat. Do not press the accelerator while starting the engine under any circumstances.
Doing so may cause an accident resulting in death or serious injury.

Stopping the engine in an emergency

If you want to stop the engine in an emergency while driving the vehicle, push and hold the "ENGINE START STOP" switch for more than 3 seconds.
However, do not touch the "ENGINE START STOP" switch while driving except in an emergency. If the engine stops while the vehicle is being driven, this could lead to an unexpected accident.

NOTICE

To prevent battery discharge

Do not leave the "ENGINE START STOP" switch in ACCESSORY or IGNITION ON mode for long periods without the engine running.

When starting the engine

- Do not race a cold engine.
- If the engine becomes difficult to start or stalls frequently, have the engine checked immediately.

Automatic transmission

Select a shift position appropriate for the driving conditions.

Shifting the shift lever and selecting a shift position

While the "ENGINE START STOP" switch is in IGNITION ON mode, depress the brake pedal and move the shift lever.

Shift position	Function
P	Parking the vehicle/ starting the engine
R	Reversing
N	Neutral
D	Normal driving*
M	M mode driving (→P. 132)

*: To improve fuel efficiency and reduce noises, set the shift lever in the D position for normal driving.

Shift position uses

Shift position	Display	Function	Purpose
		Normal D position driving	Gears between 1 and 8 are automatically selected according to driving conditions
	(paddle shift switches activated)	Shift range selection (→P. 130)	Allows optimum use of engine braking
		Individual gear selection (→P. 132)	Allows the driver to select gears for sporty driving

n **Selecting a driving mode**

The following modes can be selected to suit driving conditions

1 Snow mode

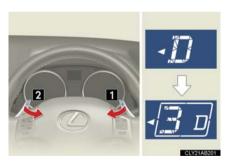
For accelerating and driving on slippery road surfaces, such as on snow.

2 “Sport” mode

(→P. 180)

To cancel a mode, press the same side of the switch again.

Selecting shift ranges in the D position

To drive using temporary shift range selection, operate the “-”paddle shift switch. The shift range can then be selected by operating the “-” and “+” paddle shift switches. Changing the shift range allows restriction of the highest gear, preventing unnecessary upshifting and enabling the level of engine braking force to be selected.

1 Higher shift range

2 Lower shift range

The selected shift range, from 1 to 8, will be displayed in the meter cluster.

To return to normal D position driving, the “+” paddle shift switch must be held down for a period of time.

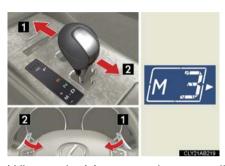
■ Shift ranges and their functions

Meter cluster display*	Function
8	Gears between 1 and 8 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
7	Gears between 1 and 7 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
6	Gears between 1 and 6 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
5	Gears between 1 and 5 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
4	Gears between 1 and 4 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
3	Gears between 1 and 3 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
2	Gears between 1 and 2 are automatically selected according to vehicle speed and driving conditions
1	The gear is set at 1

*: "D" is also displayed to indicate the shift position.

A lower shift range will provide greater engine braking force than a higher shift range.

Selecting gears in the M position

To enter M mode, shift the shift lever to the M position. Gears can then be selected by operating the shift lever or paddle shift switches, allowing you to drive in the gear of your choosing.

1 Upshifting

2 Downshifting

The gear changes once every time the shift lever or paddle shift switch is operated.

The selected gear, from 1 to 8, will be displayed in the meter cluster.

When in the M position, the gear will not change unless the shift lever or paddle shift switches are operated.

However, even when in the M position, the gears will be automatically changed in the following situations:

- When vehicle speed drops (downshift only).
- When the automatic transmission fluid or engine coolant temperature is low.

■ Gear functions

Meter cluster display*	Function
8	The gear is fixed at 8th gear
7	The gear is fixed at 7th gear
6	The gear is fixed at 6th gear
5	The gear is fixed at 5th gear
4	The gear is fixed at 4th gear
3	The gear is fixed at 3rd gear
2	The gear is fixed at 2nd gear
1	The gear is fixed at 1st gear

*: "M" is also displayed to indicate the shift position.

■ When the "-" paddle shift switch is operated in the D position

- When the "-" paddle shift switch is operated in the D position, a shift range will be automatically selected. The highest gear of the first shift range will be one gear lower than the gear in use during normal D position driving.
- If the "-" paddle shift switch is operated when in range 6 or above, the shift range may be lowered by two ranges or more in accordance with the driving conditions.

■ Automatic deactivation of shift range selection in the D position

Shift range selection in the D position will be deactivated in the following situations:

- When the vehicle comes to a stop
- If the accelerator pedal is depressed for more than a certain period of time in one shift range

■ Rev buzzer

If the engine speed approaches the red zone, a buzzer will sound once to encourage the driver to upshift.

Downshift restrictions warning buzzer

To help ensure safety and driving performance, downshifting operation may sometimes be restricted. In some circumstances, downshifting may not be possible even when the shift lever or paddle shift switch is operated. (A buzzer will sound twice.)

When driving with the cruise control or dynamic radar cruise control

Engine braking will not occur during shift range selection in the D position, even when downshifting to range 7, 6, 5 or 4. (→P. 158, 161)

Automatic deactivation of snow mode and “Sport” mode

If the “ENGINE START STOP” switch is turned OFF after driving in either snow mode or “Sport” mode, the mode is automatically deactivated.

If the shift lever cannot be shifted from P

→P. 475

If M is not displayed after shifting the shift lever to M

- Within a few seconds of turning the “ENGINE START STOP” switch to IGNITION ON mode, the transmission will not go into M mode if the shift lever is moved to the M position. This is because a system check is being performed. In this case, wait a moment and then try moving the shift lever to the M position again.
- If the display does not change to M on an occasion other than that described above, it may indicate a malfunction in the automatic transmission system. Have your vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.

Automatic gear selection when the vehicle is stopped

- When the vehicle comes to a stop, the transmission will automatically downshift to allow you to start off in 1^{st} gear.
- When the vehicle is idling at high rpm in order to warm up, and the vehicle is on a slippery road, the transmission will automatically shift to 2^{nd} gear for stopping and starting off.

If the automatic transmission fluid temperature warning message is displayed

If the automatic transmission fluid temperature warning message is displayed while driving, make sure you return to normal D position driving and reduce speed by easing off the accelerator pedal. Stop the vehicle in a safe place, shift the shift lever to the P position and let the engine idle until the warning message goes out.
When the warning message goes out, the vehicle can be driven again.
If the warning message does not go out after waiting a while, have your vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer.

AI-SHIFT

The AI-SHIFT automatically selects the optimal gear according to driver performance and driving conditions.
The AI-SHIFT automatically operates when the shift lever is in the D position. However, operating the "-" paddle shift switch will restrict the function's operation. (Shifting the shift lever to the M position cancels the function.)

CAUTION

When driving on slippery road surfaces

Be careful of downshifting and sudden acceleration, as this could result in the vehicle skidding to the side or spinning.

Turn signal lever

1 Right turn

2 Left turn

3 Move and hold the lever part-way to signal a lane change

The right hand signal will flash until you release the lever.

4 Move and hold the lever part-way to signal a lane change

The left hand signal will flash until you release the lever.

- **Turn signals can be operated when**

  The "ENGINE START STOP" switch is in IGNITION ON mode.

- **If the indicators flash faster than usual**

  Check that a light bulb in the front or rear turn signal lights has not burned out.

Parking brake

Sets the parking brake*
(Depressing the pedal again releases the parking brake.)

*: Fully depress the parking brake pedal with your left foot while depressing the brake pedal with your right foot.

Usage in winter time

See "Winter driving tips" for parking brake usage in winter time. (→P. 192)

NOTICE

Before driving

Fully release the parking brake.
Driving the vehicle with the parking brake set will lead to brake components over-heating, which may affect braking performance and increase brake wear.

Horn

To sound the horn, press on or close to the [horn symbol] mark.